

Docket: BI9485P
PATENT

REMARKS

Applicants have added new Claims 36-38. Claims 1-38 are presently pending in the application.

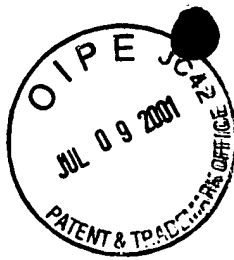
Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of same is requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

IN THE CLAIMS

New Claims 36-38 have been added as follows:

36. (New) An apparatus for imparting disruptive forces onto a target surface, comprising:

a scanner constructed to provide electromagnetic energy and to automatically scan the electromagnetic energy above a plurality of points of the target surface; and

a moisture output constructed to simultaneously place a layer of moisture above the plurality of points, the placement of the layer of moisture above the plurality of points defining a corresponding plurality of interaction zones extending about 5 mm or less above the target surface, the electromagnetic energy from the scanner being automatically scanned over the layer of moisture and being substantially absorbed by the layer of moisture in each of the interaction zones, the substantial absorption of the electromagnetic energy in each of the interaction zones causing the moisture therein to expand and impart disruptive forces onto the target surface;

wherein the electromagnetic energy from the scanner is substantially absorbed by the moisture above the plurality of points in a corresponding plurality of interaction zones; and

wherein each interaction zone in which the moisture is absorbing the electromagnetic energy and expanding, does not extend more than about 5 mm above the target surface.

37. (New) A method of imparting disruptive forces onto a target surface, comprising:

scanning electromagnetic energy above a plurality of points of the target surface;

simultaneously placing moisture above the plurality of points so that at least portions of the electromagnetic energy above the plurality of points are substantially absorbed by the moisture above the plurality of points; and

scanning electromagnetic energy above the plurality of points of the target surface without any simultaneous placement of moisture above the plurality of points.

38. (New) A method of imparting disruptive forces onto a target surface, comprising:

scanning electromagnetic energy above a plurality of points of the target surface;
simultaneously placing first amounts of moisture above the plurality of points;
scanning electromagnetic energy above the plurality of points of the target surface; and
simultaneously placing second amounts of moisture above the plurality of points, the
second amounts of moisture being less than the first amounts of moisture.